



St Patrick's Cathedral Newsletter



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Office hours: 9am-4pm Mon-Thu 9am-3pm on Friday

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St Patrick's, in communion with St Saviour's Primary School - Samuel Hannant (4637 1700)
St Saviour's College - Jessica Wade (4637 1600)



We acknowledge and respect the Traditional Owners of this place, the Jarowair and Giabal Peoples.



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

5 January 2025

First reading: Isaiah 60:1-6 The Glory of the Lord shines upon you.

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

Second Reading: Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6 The revelation means that the pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body.

Alleluia, alleluia!! *We have seen his star in the East; and have come to adore the Lord. Alleluia!*

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12 We have come from the East to worship the king.

We are often told that we are a Pilgrim people. The search for the sacred and the ways of the Almighty are a life-long quest. If there was any day that reminds us of this, it must be the celebration of the Epiphany of the Lord. Taking to heart the quest of the magi to seek something far beyond themselves, we see how they set out in pilgrimage to find what their heart desired.

The theme of pilgrimage is that the fore at the beginning of the Holy Year as Pope Francis has given this year of jubilee 2025 the theme of Pilgrims of Hope. This theme is given to us to encourage us to embrace hope as a central principle, drawing on the example of Christ who is our hope at every step of life's journey. In announcing the theme Pope Francis said: "we must find the flame of hope that has been given us, and help everyone to gain new strength and certainty by looking to the future with an open spirit, a trusting heart and far-sighted vision."

On Christmas Eve, Pope Francis opened the Holy Door at St Pater's Basilica to mark the beginning of this Holy Year [which happens every 25 years]. In his homily, that night, the Pope spoke of the theme of the year based on hope. He said: "... God has become one of us to make us like himself; he has come down to us to lift us up and restore us to the embrace of the Father. ... this is our hope. God is Emmanuel, God-with-us. The infinitely great has made himself tiny; divine light has shone amid the darkness of our world; the glory of heaven has appeared on earth. And how? As a little child. If God can visit us, even when our hearts seem like a lowly manger, we can truly say: Hope is not dead; hope is alive and it embraces our lives forever. Hope does not disappoint! ...with the opening of the Holy Door we have inaugurated a new Jubilee, and each of us can enter into the mystery of this extraordinary event. Tonight, the door of hope has opened wide to the world. Tonight, God speaks to each of us and says: there is hope also for you! There is hope for each of us. And do not forget, sisters and brothers, that God forgives everything, God always forgives. Do not forget this, which is a way of understanding hope in the Lord."

As we open the Holy Year this Epiphany Sunday within our Diocese, we realise how much we and our world need hope in this present age. We also realise that to discover this hope we must set out in the constant pilgrimage to live within and discover all that God's hope and life has in store for us.

As Pope Francis said at Christmas: " the "holy door" of God's heart lies open before you. Jesus, God-with-us, is born for you, for me, for us, for every man and woman. And remember that with him, joy flourishes; with him, life changes; with him, hope does not disappoint."

Bishop Ken Howell



✠ **We remember in our prayers all those who have died recently:** Beverley Brown, Vic Brun, Michael Ryan.

✠ **We hold in our hearts the memories of those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Rodney Pingel, Paul Mahon, Lyla Saide.

✠ **For all those who are ill in our community:** Clive O’Kelly, Win Southern, Claire Seymour, John Evers, Sharon Keats, Bernard Bartetzko, Vicky Coccozza, Jibrán Mardini, Richard Stritzel, Rita Irwin, Kate Gibbs, Christine ‘Saus’ Barron, Alyshia Morris, William Garrahy, Bev Smith, Sheryl Grunke, Noel Roshan Francis, Therese Odri, Kath Smith, Freddy Nield, Ray Frelek, Blake Cusato, Braxton, Greg Coddington, Jamal Abraham, Judy Moloney, Perlita Torrecampo, Teresita Pamulaklakin, Madeline Gray.

Information packs for **St Pat’s Sacramental program for 2025** are now available from the office. Please email admin@stpats.org.au or phone 4637 1500. Enrolments close on 20 December 2024.



Scan the Code to make a donation - Restoration Fund Fundraising: JOIN US TO PRESERVE THE PAST AND RESTORE FOR THE FUTURE A cathedral is never just a parish church; it belongs to everyone. St Patrick’s historical significance is not just for Catholics, it is a part of the story of Toowoomba and Queensland. Be a part of our restoration journey; donate today. Donations made through National Trust Queensland are tax-deductible; **Scroll down to select “St Patrick’s Cathedral Appeal, Toowoomba”** Please direct enquiries to the Fundraising Coordinator Ph: 46327589

CHRISTMAS COLLECTION: As many would be aware each year, half of the Christmas Collection throughout the Diocese goes to a targeted cause – this year to families in Lebanon and the StVDP local conferences.

**Thank you to all who gave generously over Christmas.
\$4184.50 will be given to both causes mentioned above.**

Sunday 5 January Feast of the Epiphany [SPC – St Patrick’s] [STM – St Thomas More’s]	7am, 9am, 5.30pm. Live Stream 9am	11am Baptism Zoe Ann Gilbert 4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre Thank you Fr Vince Carroll for providing Masses for the coming week.
Monday 6 January Weekdays of Christmastide	5.30pm Mass SPC No 9.00am Mass STM	Please keep the Bishop and Priests of the Diocese in your prayers this week as they attend their annual retreat in Brisbane
Tuesday 7 January	9am Mass SPC	
Wednesday 8 January	7am Mass SPC	7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Thursday 9 January	7am Mass SPC	No adoration today - resumes next week
Friday 10 January	7am Mass SPC No 9.30am Mass STM	7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Saturday 11 January	7am Mass SPC 6pm Mass SPC Fr William Hall	6.30am Rosary at St. Patrick’s 8am – 9am Reconciliation SPC 10am Baptism Remi Lee Edwards 11am Baptism Walter Maurice Connolly
Sunday 12 January The Baptism of the Lord	7am, 9am, 5.30pm Live Stream 9am	11am Baptism Rafe Tayte Wilson 12pm Baptism Maria Amelia Deanon 1pm Baptism Mia Adalynn Gorton 2pm Baptism Eden Valkyrie Jensen 4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre

Planned Giving: Thank you for your donations. Loose \$3168 Planned Giving \$823 Donation Point \$1060 Money Counters this weekend: Pat Power, Leo & Maureen McMahon
Money Counters next weekend: Sam & Fina Ginardi, Wendy Heelan

Planned Giving Options: Envelopes available from parish office. For direct debit/credit card please contact Celia at the Parish Office on 4637 1500. You may simply like to do a bank transfer: St Patrick’s Cathedral, BSB 064-786, Account Number 100014072, reference envelope number or name in donating. Thank you.

Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven, may the *faith* you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of *charity* enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed *hope* for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, *Pilgrims of Hope*, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever,

Amen.

